



Lowell City Council

Environment & Flood SC

Michael Q. Geary
City Clerk

Date: December 22, 2020
Time: 5:30 PM
Location: Zoom / Remote Participation / City Council Chamber
Lowell City Hall, Lowell, Ma.

PRESENT:

Present on Roll Call were Chairperson Samaras (Remote), C. Elliott and C. Nuon. Others present were (Remote - Christine Clancy (DPW); Fire Chief Charron (LFD); Shad Ahmed (Emergency Services); City Solicitor O'Connor); C. Drinkwater; Manager Donoghue and C. Rourke.

MEETING CALLED TO ORDER:

Chairperson Samaras called the meeting to order.

ORDER OF BUSINESS:

Ms. Clancy outlined report provided to body commenting on DPW oversight of area; the protocol regarding beaver infestation and dam building; as well as the protocol regarding bladder dam. Ms. Clancy noted problem was resolved and water level was lowering and would continue oversight. Solicitor O'Connor commented on successor of interest to Enel regarding settlement agreement entered into by the City and that the agreement put City in best possible position. Fire Chief Charron commented on beaver dams and protocol and the oversight of the area regarding flooding. Chief Charron commented on emergency services and the indicators that they use. C. Elliott commented on the update provided regarding beaver dams and noted new company may be more cooperative than Enel was. Chief Charron commented on building relationship with the new entity and having an emergency management meeting. C. Rourke noted efforts on response by the City and plans for moving forward which may be simpler now that Enel is no longer involved. C. Samaras commented on the report and opened meeting up to public. Deb Forgione and John Hamblett addressed the subcommittee. Solicitor O'Connor commented on the agreement in terms of being a legal settlement as part of litigation which has proved favorable to the City and resolve outstanding issues. C. Elliott commented on current re-licensing of new owner of facility and that substantial changes are being proposed. Solicitor O'Connor noted FERC was part of settlement. Manager Donoghue noted re-licensing process is a long involved process which the City will be a part of. C. Samaras noted oversight



of the area by the DPW and lauded their operation. C. Nuon questioned the proposed changes by new owners and requested updates. Manager Donoghue noted that there are major proposed changes in the downtown area. C. Elliott noted that there were beaver consultants available as problem does repeat itself. Ms. Clancy noted by law they cannot relocate beavers they must be euthanized. C. Elliott suggested Fire Chief reach out to new ownership and establish relationship.

ADJOURNMENT:

Motion to adjourn by C. Elliott, seconded by C. Nuon. So Voted.

Meeting adjourned at 6:20 PM

Michael Q. Geary, City Clerk